

Subject: Sybase password not hidden

17 July 2001

The following directive is issued to all DAACS and labs.

Issue: It is a security risk to use the “-P” password option because the password is then visible when a “ps” command is executed

Fix:

1. Interactively, do not use the “-P” option and the system will prompt you for the password.
2. Within scripts, do not use the “-P” option but rather echo an environment variable or insert in a script as the second line

Testing: Verify that the Sybase instance still works

Implementation:

- 1.) When logging on interactively, use the syntax:
% **isql -U username -i input.sql -o output** ☒

NOTE: Do NOT use the -P option. The system will prompt you for the password.

2.) Within a script, use one of the following examples. Assumes having logged in as dba or root:

- a. Environment variable. From within the .cshrc or .profile, set the password . For example:

```
echo $password | isql -U username << EOF
```

```
1> use database
```

```
2> go
```

```
3> sp_help
```

```
4> go
```

```
5> quit
```

```
EOF
```

- b. Internal to script. From within the script itself:

```
isql -U username << EOF
```

```
password
```

```
1> use database
```

```
2> go
```

```
3> sp_help
```

```
4> go
```

```
5> quit
```

```
6> EOF
```

- c. **chmod 550 script** ☒

IMPORTANT! PLEASE change the permissions so that only the appropriate user and group can read/execute the script.

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Reference CCR: 01-0553

-----End of Directive-----